(a) whether any power project proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh have been pending with the Central Government approval for over a year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Central Government for expediting the projects?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) As per the Electricity Act, 2003, requirement of techno-economic clearance (TEC) for Thermal Power Projects has been dispensed with. Further no proposal for according TEC to any hydro electric project in Andhra Pradesh is pending for clearance in Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

MiG accidents

†2327. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many MiG-21 aircrafts have met with accidents during the last three years;

(b) what were the causes of these accidents;

(c) whether any inquiry Committee was appointed to find out the various reasons therefor; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) During the last three years (from the Financial Year 2002-03 till 9.12.2005) a total number of twenty one MiG-21 aircraft of the Indian Air Force met with accidents.

(b) to (d) Each aircraft accident of the Indian Air Force is investigated by a Court of Inquiry (CoI). Of the above 21 accident cases, the CoI found that 11 accidents were due to Human Error, 8 accidents due to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

Technical Defect and one accident was due to Bird Hit. The cause of one accident, however, remained unresolved.

Terrorist attacks

2328. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many terrorist attacks were made in the country or near the borders of the country since the last Session of Parliament;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is serious increase in such attacks;

(c) how many civilians and paramilitary personnel killed or injured; and

(d) what special actions/precautions Government have taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) As per available information, there have been 31 significant terrorist attacks, including incidents of naxalite violence in the country from August, 2005 to November, 2005. In these attacks 132 civilians, 67 security forces (SFs) have been killed and 404 civilians and 54 SFs sustained injuries. These figures do not show a serious increase in the terrorist attacks.

(d) The Government pursues a multi-dimensional approach to deal with terrorist activities and extends support to the States in neutralizing such terrorist activities. The multi-pronged strategy gives primacy to dialogue, democratic and political processes and the rule of law. In order to curb terrorist activities, the Government has taken measures which include strengthening of border management to check infiltration, galvanizing the intelligence mechinery insuring imporved technology weaponry and equipment for security forces both at the Centre and in the States, neutralizing plans of terrorist/anti-national elements by well coordinated intelligence based operations. Besides, the steps have also been taken to achieve bilateral/multi-lateral cooperation to deal with the menance of terrorism, given its global dimensions.